Midwest Apple Production Decisions During a Drought Year

Order new trees (or check).

Plant new trees. Bee colonies brought in to assist with pollination.

Warm & dry conditions are good for pollination.

First pesticide application. Fertilization, irrigation, pruning, mowing to manage soil moisture. Begin intake of fungicides for the season.

Drought during first 30 days of fruit development is most detrimental to current crop fruit growth.

Drought-stressed trees may be more susceptible to pests and diseases may be transmitted during dry years.

Prolonged drought in late summer may affect next year's fruit crop.

Pest and disease damage. Pest and disease damage.

Yield and quality reduction.

Death of young trees.

Tree damage/health.

Order new trees (or check)!

Dry soils in combination with extreme cold increases the likelihood of root damage or death.

Irrigate & mulch to maintain soil moisture prior to freeze.

Prepare for next year's tree planting - tillage, nutrient/PH management, seed grass.


Prune young trees.

Thinning for current year's crop.

Drought during last two months before harvest affects quality & size of fruit.

Prune young trees.

Moldy, blighted, scab & frost.

Biotic to non-biotic damage.

Apple, pear, plum, cherry, walnut, chestnut.

Thinning, ongoing pest control.

Thin fruit. Ongoing Pest Control.

Ripe fruit.

Fruit set - cell division stage

Flowering

Fruit set - cell division stage

Cell division stage ends

MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

OUTCOME OBSERVED

DROUGHT CONCERNS

Crop Phenology

MIDWEST APPLE

Drought Concerns Management Decisions

During a Drought Year

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